

The 2004 Audre Lorde Scholarship Donors

ZAMI, Inc.

The Audre Lorde Scholarship Fund

Promoting Black Lesbian/
Gay Scholarship

Lifting As We Climb

September 18, 2004

*To encourage excellence is to go
beyond the encouraged mediocrity
of our society.*

Audre Lorde



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The Sheryl Burke Award: Burke is a Personal Injury Attorney who operates her own law practices based in Georgia and California. Burke, a native of Los Angeles, California, is a graduate of St. Louis University Law School and is a member of the National and Georgia Trial Lawyers' Association.

The Cherie Caldwell Award: Caldwell is an expert in the supervision and management of employee relations, training and development, with more than 15 years of human resource management experience. Caldwell is currently employed as the Director of Human Resources for a flight attendant group of 19,000 employees.

The Tony Daniels Community Ally Award: Anthony C. Daniels (1965 - 1998), was one of Atlanta's most powerful organizers and ADODI Muse, Inc., and of the Black Lesbian & Gay Poets Society.

This scholarship is funded by ADODI Muse, Inc.: A Gay Negro Ensemble, the black gay male performance poets' collective. Muse members, Duncan E. Teague, Malik M.L. Williams and Anthony Antoine specifically recognize Daniels' work to build bridges across diverse communities.

The Sherry Turner Award: Dr. Sherry Turner is a developmental psychologist whose research and teaching focus on the socialization of African-American women and girls. Dr. Turner works at Spelman College where she serves as Assistant to the President and is Secretary of the college.

The Hannah Guishard Award: A native of the U.S. Virgin Islands, Dr. Guishard came to the United States in 1988 to pursue her studies in Veterinary Medicine. Dr. Guishard is the Founder and Co-Owner of Union City Veterinary Medical Center & Emergency Clinic, a 24 hour Veterinary Hospital on the south side of Atlanta.



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The Kelley D. Alexander Award: A native of Wisconsin, Alexander studied English Literature and Philosophy at Beloit College. She is the founder and publisher of Innerlight Publishing, whose mission is to take on subliminal projects that move, encourage, and inspire the way of a unique ability to bring inner-visions into physical form.

Antonio Johnes Award: No picture or bio available.

The Mellonce Rheams and Debra Mlambo Award: No picture or bio available.

The 2004 Audre Lorde Scholars



Olayinka (Yinka) Majekodunmi is the recipient of the Margaret Ntombi Howell Power & Presence Memorial Award. Born in Nigeria and raised in the city of Lagos, Yinka says she is "a student of life and a lover of females." Majoring in Public Health Education and Nutrition at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, VA – she has dedicated her life to slowing the incidences of same sex domestic violence.



Cristel Serena Miller, the recipient of the Mabel Hampton Honorary Academic & Human Rights Leadership Award, is a senior at Rice University in Houston, Texas. She was recently honored as one of Glamour Magazine's Top 10 College Women for 2004. Miller, a Rice University Mellon Mays Fellow, participates in the Rice University Undergraduate Scholars Program, received the Rice University Morty Rich Community Service Award.



Lukwana Littlejohn, the recipient of the Keiron Williams Hero Award is an English Major studying at Consummes River College in Sacramento. Lukwana completed her first novel, Dear Reader, last year. She is actively involved in the Lambda Letters Project, a political letter writing organization – and works to fund her education as a Veterinary Technician.

Lichelle (Shelley) Barry and Preston Shumaker are recipients of the Ruth Ellis Award.



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Shelton Jackson, the recipient of the Tony Daniels Ally Award, is a man who has a dream: to finish college against all odds. Jackson has fought to complete his studies despite living on his own since age fifteen, experiencing drug addiction in his immediate family, and nursing his lover for four years until his death from AIDS related complications. Jackson completed his Associates degree last summer and is currently studying accounting at Morgan State University in Baltimore, Maryland.



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Stephanie M. Forbes, Lynnee Bonner, and Erica Woodland are the recipients of the Sheryl Burke Award.



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Jonathan Ann Jones and Eldridge Holloway, recipients of the Cheryl Caldwell Award



Jonathan Ann Jones, has been on the battlefield for many years fighting the spread of HIV/AIDS and substance abuse in her community. Jones has received educational and organizational training on issues such as HIV/AIDS and Chemical Dependency. Jones entered the University of Arkansas in 2002 to work toward her goal of becoming a Registered Nurse.



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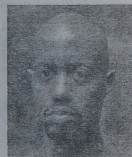
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Xanthia Johnson, the recipient of The Sherry Turner Award is a graduate student concentrating in Community Counseling at Trinity College in Washington, D.C. Johnson has served as a volunteer legal advocate for Somali women and also in the field of domestic violence. She plans to become a Pediatric Play Therapist and currently volunteers and interns at the Sexual Minority Youth Assistance League.



Lauren McCray, the recipient of the **Hannah Guishard Award**, entered American University in Washington, DC this fall as a freshman psychology major. During her time at Howard High School of Technology in Wilmington, DE, McCray founded the Gay-Straight Alliance. She also participated as a member of "You're Not Alone" youth group, served as a panelist on the Jimmy Wheeler International Youth panel and was a delegate to the National Conference for Community and Justice.



Craig Washington, the recipient of the **Bayard Rustin Activist Award**, attends Georgia State University earning a degree in Social Work while continuing to work full-time as a volunteer and training coordinator. Washington has worked with AID Atlanta, Southerners On New Ground, The Gay & Lesbian Center and Positive Impact because he believes that direct service is honorable work and can help change lives.



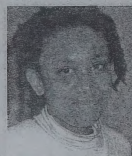
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Michael "Shomari" Robinette, the recipient of the **Kecia Cunningham Award**, is a graduate student in Women's Studies at Georgia State University in Atlanta. Robinette co-founded Black Out, which galvanized Black lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning students on Georgia State University campus. worked with AID Atlanta on the Young African-American Gay Outreach Project and performed with the Atlanta African dance and theatre community.



Brandi-el Cook, the recipient of the **Edith Biggers-Kathi Martin Award**, entered the University of Memphis this fall as a freshman. Cook was the only out African-American lesbian in her high school and spent countless hours counseling and motivating closeted teens. Noteworthy is that Cook established a lesbian/ gay resource section in her high school's library in a weeks time by collecting over 150 books, magazines, articles and videos, built a bookcase, and received a letter of approval from the assistant and head principals.



Kebo Drew, the recipient of the **Pat Parker Award**, is studying creative writing at City College in San Francisco. "Poetry is the thread of my soul. I write poems to stitch together my sanity and my life." Over the past ten years, Drew has worked at a number of lesbian organizations, such as Luna Sea Women's Performance Project, Bay Area Career Women, Liquid Fire Project and the Queer Women of Color Media Arts Project. The community work that held the most meaning for her was her work for San

Francisco Women Against Rape, as a volunteer counselor, medical advocate, Multilingual Advocate and trainer.



Doreen Watson, the recipient of the **Mellonee Rheams and Debra Mlambo Award**, is a doctoral student in Sociology and Master's student in Women's Studies at Texas Woman's University in Denton, Texas. As a Co-Founder and Co-President of an organization named Bridges: Making Connections, Watson strives to bring equality for all people across categories of race, gender, and sexuality. As a mentor for African American lesbians on her college campus, she has focused her energies toward

helping to empowerment those young women who are facing the challenges of being black and lesbian in a white and heterosexually dominant society.

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Major Sponsors:

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Holiday Inn Select Decatur

In The Life Atlanta

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Fund for Southern Communities

Lazer Age

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*for more information on our scholars,
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Florida nonprofit that provided counsel and assistance to teen mothers. Donor Representatives are Wendy and Lee Hampton. Lee is currently the executive director of a New Orleans non-profit. This recent career change follows a presidency at two North Carolina Universities. Wendy recently managed a gay and lesbian. She was an entrepreneur and activist. Hampton became one of the catalysts for the Lesbian Herstory Archives in New York City when she donated her extensive collection of 1950s paperbacks.

The Mabel Hampton Honorary Academic & Human Rights Leadership Award: Mabel Hampton (1902 - 1989) was an inspiration to younger gays and lesbians. She was an entrepreneur and activist. Hampton became one of the catalysts for the Lesbian Herstory Archives in New York City when she donated her extensive collection of 1950s paperbacks.

Gould and Laurie Giandomenico: Cyrus is an associate in the firm's Boston office, where she practices in the Health Care Section. She advises clients on regulatory compliance and risk management, fraud and abuse matters, and judicial or administrative proceedings.

The Pat Parker Award: Pat Parker (1944-1988) participated in political activism ranging from early involvement with the Black Panther Party and Black Women's Revolutionary Council to formation of the Women's Press Collective to wide-ranging activism in gay and lesbian. The Parker award is funded by Jo Cyrus, Tonia Potat, Rachel L. and Lesbian.

The Margaret Ntombi Howell Power & Presence Memorial Award: Margaret Ntombi Howell (1951-2003) Ntombi as a national spokesperson, transformed the concept of recovery into a universal human experience for all people. She was an advocate and activist for the rights of women, people of color and the poor. This award is funded by Rhessa Jenkins and Anna Saran.

Jenkins is a Stanford educated scientist with a commitment to continuous education in community settings, such as C&I and ANDP's Ford Foundation program in Community Economic Development. Saran's work is best described as a social ministry that teaches the importance of researching community health, mental and physical, to support the efforts of non-profit organizations in creation of sustainable institutions.

The Bayard Rustin Activist Award: Bayard Rustin (1912 - 1987) For more than 50 years, Bayard Rustin was a strategist and activist in the struggle for human rights and economic justice. As a gay man, relatively open for his time, Rustin experienced anti-gay prejudice in addition to racial discrimination. He was the Deputy Director and chief organizer of the 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom which, at that time, was the largest demonstration in the nation's history.

Decatur City Commissioner, Kecia Cunningham is the first openly gay, African-American to be elected in the South-east. Working with sexual orientation and transgender status and has had domestic partner benefits added to the City's personnel policies.

Rev. Dr. Kahlil E. Martin is a speaker/preacher with particular concern for bridge-building across the divides of race, religion, gender, age, sexual orientation, and physical ability. From the beginning of her studies in engineering, continuing through her studies in ministry, she has believed persons are more effective when working together as a unit than they are when separated.

Dr. Biggers is a native of Atlanta and received her M.D. from Emory. Dr. Biggers is on maximizing self-empowerment through education, underserved, and substance using HIV positive patients, with an are and state-of-the-art medical care to indigent, uninsured. Dr. Biggers is a public health physician who delivers compassion-

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The ZAMI Mission Statement

ZAMI's primary mission is to empower and affirm the lives of lesbians of African descent through providing scholarship funds, leadership development, support/discussion groups, social activities, outreach and education.

The Audre Lorde Scholarship Fund

The scholarship fund is the brainchild of ZAMI's current Executive Director, Mary Anne Adams. The first two scholarships were awarded in 1997 to Wendi O'Neal from Spelman College and Akeya Works from Georgia State University.

Since that time, we have awarded a total of 70, \$1000 scholarships to "out" black lesbians and gay men nation-wide who are making significant contributions to their communities.

ZAMI Board Members

Mary Anne Adams
Executive Director

Beryl Jackson, Chair

Edith Biggers
Nakia Brown
Lynn Duhart
Jill Ford
Lyric Harmon

Charone Pagett
Tonia Potat
Miya Binta
Frances E. Wood

Special Thanks

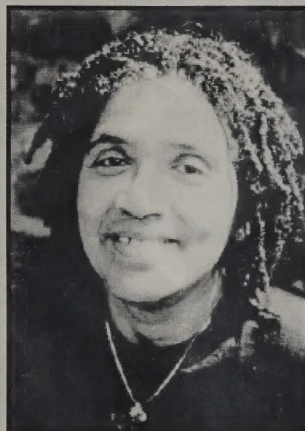
Leslie Bladen	Janiece Thompson
Paula Umsted	Wendy Darling
The Drag Kings	Lambda Legal
First Existentialist Congregation	Atlanta Pride
	YouthPride
Lisa Campbell	Connie Cross
Dale Butler	Melissa Gordon

*Much love and appreciation
to all our featured artists.*

www.zami.org: Visit zami.org for more information on our scholars, donors, and upcoming events.

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Wendy Belkin: lives in Decatur, Georgia and for over 15 years has operated her own business as a Tax Attorney and CPA.

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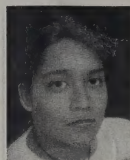


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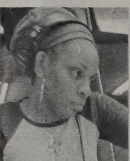
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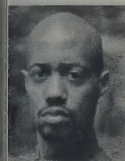
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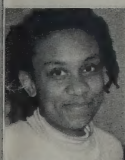
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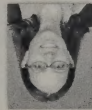
The Margaret Ntombi Howell Power & Presence Memorial Award: Margaret Ntombi Howell (1951-2003) Ntombi as a national spokesperson, transformed the concept of recovery into a universal human experience for all people. She was an advocate and activist for the rights of women, people of color and the poor. This award is funded by **Rhessa Jenkins and Ama Saran**. Jenkins is a Stanford educated scientist with a commitment to continuous education in community settings, such as CAL and ANDP's Ford Foundation program in Community Economic Development. Saran's work is best described as a social ministry that teaches the importance of researching community health, mental and physical, to support the efforts of non-profit organizations in creation of sustainable institutions.

The Pat Parker Award: Pat Parker (1944-1989) participated in political activism ranging from early involvement with the Black Panther Party and Black Women's Revolutionary Council to formation of the Women's Press Collective to wide-ranging activism in gay and lesbian.

Gould and Laurie Giandomenico: Cyrus is an associate in the firm's Boston office, where she practices in the Health Care Section. She advises clients on regulatory compliance and risk management, fraud and abuse matters, and judicial or administrative proceedings.

The Mabel Hampton Honorary Academic & Human Rights Leadership Award: Mabel Hampton (1902 - 1989) was an inspiration to younger gays and lesbians. She was an entertainer and activist. Hampton became one of the catalysts for the Lesbian History Archives in New York City when she donated her extensive collection of 1950s paperbacks.

Donor Representatives are **Wendy and Lee Hampton**. Lee is currently the executive director of a New Orleans non profit. This recent career change follows vice presidencies at two North Carolina Universities. Wendy recently managed a Florida nonprofit that provided counsel and assistance to teen mothers.



This award is funded by ally, **Allen Thornell**, deputy regional political director with the Service Employees International Union, one of the largest and politically active unions in the country.

The Bayard Rustin Activist Award: Bayard Rustin (1912 - 1987) For more than 50 years, Bayard Rustin was a strategist and activist in the struggle for human rights and economic justice. As a gay man, relatively open for his time, Rustin experienced anti-gay prejudice in addition to racial discrimination. He was the Deputy Director and chief organizer of the 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom which, at that time, was the largest demonstration for nation's history.



Kecia Cunningham: Kecia Cunningham is the first openly gay, African-American to be elected in the Southcar. Working with sexual orientation and transgender status and has had domestic partner benefits added to the City's personnel policies.



Rev. Dr. Karthi E. Martin is a speaker/preacher with particular concern for bridge-building across the divides of race, religion, gender, age, sexual orientation, and physical ability. From the beginning of her studies in engineering, continuing through her studies in ministry, she has believed persons are more effective when working together as a unit than they are when separated.

The Edith E. Biggers-Kathi Martin Award: Dr. Biggers is a native of Atlanta and received her M.D. from Emory. Dr. Biggers is a public health physician who delivers compassion-ate and state-of-the-art medical care to indigent, uninsured, underserved, and substance using HIV positive patients, with an emphasis on maximizing self-empowerment through education. Dr. Biggers is a native of Atlanta and received her M.D. from Emory.



The ZAMI Mission Statement

ZAMI's primary mission is to empower and affirm the lives of lesbians of African descent through providing scholarship funds, leadership development, support/discussion groups, social activities, outreach and education.

The Audre Lorde Scholarship Fund

The scholarship fund is the brainchild of ZAMI's current Executive Director, Mary Anne Adams. The first two scholarships were awarded in 1997 to Wendi O'Neal from Spelman College and Akeya Works from Georgia State University.

Since that time, we have awarded a total of 70, \$1000 scholarships to "out" black lesbians and gay men nation-wide who are making significant contributions to their communities.

ZAMI Board Members

Mary Anne Adams
Executive Director

Beryl Jackson, *Chair*

Edith Biggers
Nakia Brown
Lynn Duhart
Jill Ford
Lyric Harmon

Charone Pagett
Tonia Poteat
Miya Binta
Frances E. Wood

Special Thanks

Leslie Bladen

Janiece Thompson

Paula Umsted

Wendy Darling

The Drag Kings

Lambda Legal

First Existentialist
Congregation

Atlanta Pride

Lisa Campbell

YouthPride

Dale Butler

Connie Cross

Melissa Gordon

*Much love and appreciation
to all our featured artists.*

www.zami.org: Visit zami.org for more information on our scholars, donors, and upcoming events.

The 2004 Audre Lorde Scholarship Donors

ZAMI, Inc.

The Audre Lorde
Scholarship Fund

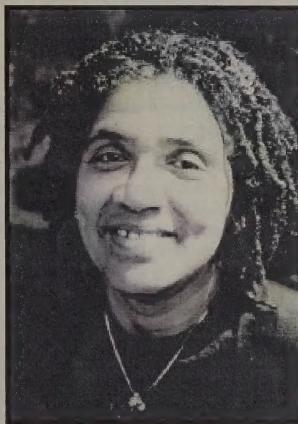
Promoting Black Lesbian/
Gay Scholarship

Lifting As We Climb

September 18, 2004

*To encourage excellence is to go
beyond the encouraged mediocrity
of our society.*

Audre Lorde



Audre Lorde

ZAMI: A Carriacou word for women who work together as friends and lovers....



The Sheryl Burke Award: Burke is a Personal Injury Attorney who operates her own law practices based in Georgia and California. Burke, a native of Los Angeles, California, is a graduate of St. Louis University Law School and is a member of the National and Georgia Trial Lawyers' Association.



The Cherie Caldwell Award: Caldwell is an expert in the supervision and management of employee relations, training and development, with more than 15 years of human resource management experience. Caldwell is currently employed as the Director of Human Resources for a flight attendant group of 19,000 employees.



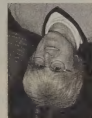
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The Sherry Turner Award: Dr. Sherry Turner is a developmental psychologist whose research and teaching focus on the socialization of African-American women and girls. Dr. Turner works at Spelman College where she serves as Assistant to the President and is Secretary of the college.



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The Kelley D. Alexander Award: A native of Wisconsin, Alexander studied English Literature and Philosophy at Beloit College. She is the founder and publisher of Innerlight Publishing, whose mission is to take on sublime projects that move, encourage, and inspire by way of a unique ability to bring inner-visions into physical form.

Antonio Johnes Award: No picture or bio available.

The Mellonce Rheams and Debra Milano Award: No picture or bio available.

The 2004 Audre Lorde Scholars



Olayinka (Yinka) Majekodunmi is the recipient of the **Margaret Ntombi Howell Power & Presence Memorial Award**. Born in Nigeria and raised in the city of Lagos, Yinka says she is "a student of life and a lover of females." Majoring in Public Health Education and Nutrition at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, VA – she has dedicated her life to slowing the incidences of same sex domestic violence.



Cristel Serena Miller, the recipient of the **Mabel Hampton Honorary Academic & Human Rights Leadership Award**, is a senior at Rice University in Houston, Texas. She was recently honored as one of Glamour Magazine's Top 10 College Women for 2004. Miller, a Rice University Mellon Mays Fellow, participates in the Rice University Undergraduate Scholars Program, received the Rice University Morty Rich Community Service Award.



Lukwanna Littlejohn, the recipient of the **Keiron Williams Hero Award** is an English Major studying at Consummes River College in Sacramento. Lukwanna completed her first novel, *Dear Reader*, last year. She is actively involved in the Lambda Letters Project, a political letter writing organization – and works to fund her education as a Veterinary Technician.

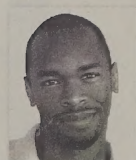
Lichelle (Shelley) Barry and **Preston Shumaker** are recipients of the **Ruth Ellis Award**.



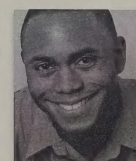
Lichelle (Shelley) Barry, is pursuing a major in Film and Media Arts at Temple University. As a filmmaker, Barry's work is strongly focused on the visibility of lesbians of color on screen. Her films have been screened at film festivals in New York and San Francisco. She is currently developing a full length documentary on so-called "coloured" identity. Barry is a longtime lesbian writer, performance artist, activist, poet and playwright from South Africa.



Preston Shumaker plays an active role in several HIV prevention and treatment programs serving lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender folks of color in Metropolitan Chicago. A Clinical Psychology major at Argosy University in Illinois, his dream is to create a grass roots advocacy agency to work with disenfranchised LGBT and HIV impacted people.



Shelton Jackson, the recipient of the **Tony Daniels Ally Award**, is a man who has a dream: to finish college against all odds. Jackson has fought to complete his studies despite living on his own since age fifteen, experiencing drug addiction in his immediate family, and nursing his lover for four years until his death from AIDS related complications. Jackson completed his Associates degree last summer and is currently studying accounting at Morgan State University in Baltimore, Maryland.



Kazem Abdullah, the recipient of the **Ronald Moore Humanitarian Award**, is a trailblazer. During his sophomore year at the University of Cincinnati, he founded UMOJA, an a cappella choir of 8 black lesbian and gay students whose focus was gay themed gospel, jazz and original poetry. The choir soon grew to 25. Abdullah excels at classical music and has won numerous awards as a clarinetist and conductor. He is currently in graduate school at the Peabody Conservatory of John Hopkins University.

Stephanie M. Forbes, **Lynnee Bonner**, and **Erica Woodland** are the recipients of the **Sheryl Burke Award**.



Stephanie M. Forbes, a student of Creative Writing at Oberlin College in Oberlin, Ohio, has been recognized by the National Honors Society and Who's Who American High School Students. Her goal is to promote visibility by having real conversations with students around issues of sexuality.



Erica Woodland, is a graduate student at the University of Maryland in Baltimore, MD, pursuing a degree in Social Work. Woodland is committed to working with people in society whom she says have "disappeared from our communities", specifically women and men affected by incarceration and addiction. She currently works with a group of women at the Baltimore City Detention center as a volunteer.



Lynnee Bonner is a cultural worker. As founder and resident DJ (SoMuchSoul) of Wildseed, she created one of the most popular events in the Bay Area in the late 90's-a place where black lesbians came together weekly to hear music, themes that excluded misogyny and expanded traditional definitions of blackness. Currently working on her master's in Ethnic Studies and Community Development at San Francisco State, Bonner's vision is to create an organization that will help young women create informed and constructive responses to gender and racial based social injustices and poverty."

Jonathan Ann Jones and **Eldridge Holloway**, recipients of the **Cheryl Caldwell Award**



Jonathan Ann Jones, has been on the battlefield for many years fighting the spread of HIV/AIDS and substance abuse in her community. Jones has received educational and organizational training on issues such as HIV/AIDS and Chemical Dependency. Jones entered the University of Arkansas in 2002 to work toward her goal of becoming a Registered Nurse.



Eldridge Holloway, is in the first year of a graduate program at Kennesaw University in Georgia studying Conflict Management. "I am 44 years old and I served seventeen of those years in the US Air Force as a Security Police Officer and Gulf War Veteran. I can assure you that 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' does not work and never did," declares Holloway. He is active with the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Alliance and holds elective office in a number of other student organizations..



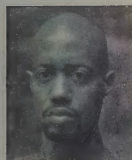
Charles G. Tyson, the recipient of the **Kelley D. Alexander Award**, is a 20 year old rising junior at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, VA where he is working on a degree in Public Administration and Communication Studies. Tyson grew up in the confines of public housing and was reared in a single parent household. He excelled in high school, graduated with honors and served as senior class VP, editor-in-chief of the school newspaper and yearbook, homecoming king and founder of the literary club.



Xanthia Johnson, the recipient of the **The Sherry Turner Award** is a graduate student concentrating in Community Counseling at Trinity College in Washington, D.C. Johnson has served as a volunteer legal advocate for Somali women and also in the field of domestic violence. She plans to become a Pediatric Play Therapist and currently volunteers and interns at the Sexual Minority Youth Assistance League.



Lauren McCray, the recipient of the **Hannah Guishard Award**, entered American University in Washington, DC this fall as a freshman psychology major. During her time at Howard High School of Technology in Wilmington, DE, McCray founded the Gay-Straight Alliance. She also participated as a member of "You're Not Alone" youth group, served as a panelist on the Jimmy Wheeler International Youth panel and was a delegate to the National Conference for Community and Justice.



Craig Washington, the recipient of the **Bayard Rustin Activist Award**, attends Georgia State University earning a degree in Social Work while continuing to work full-time as a volunteer and training coordinator. Washington has worked with AID Atlanta, Southerners On New Ground, The Gay & Lesbian Center and Positive Impact because he believes that direct service is honorable work and can help change lives.



Ava Rodgers, the recipient of the **Antonio Jones Award**, is pursuing a degree in computer information systems at Henry Ford Community College in Dearborn, MI. According to friends, Rodgers is known for her extraordinary musical and theatrical talents and her willingness to perform at fundraisers for non-profit lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender organizations. Rodgers also volunteers technical skills in service to the lgbt community and mentors youth at the Ruth Ellis Center.



Michael "Shomari" Robinette, the recipient of the **Kecia Cunningham Award**, is a graduate student in Women's Studies at Georgia State University in Atlanta. Robinette co-founded Black Out, which galvanized Black lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning students on Georgia State University campus, worked with AID Atlanta on the Young African-American Gay Outreach Project and performed with the Atlanta African dance and theatre community.



Brandi-el Cook, the recipient of the **Edith Biggers-Kathi Martin Award**, entered the University of Memphis this fall as a freshman. Cook was the only out African-American lesbian in her high school and spent countless hours counseling and motivating closeted teens. Noteworthy is that Cook established a lesbian/ gay resource section in her high school's library in a weeks time by collecting over 150 books, magazines, articles and videos, built a bookcase, and received a letter of approval from the assistant and head principals.



Kebo Drew, the recipient of the **Pat Parker Award**, is studying creative writing at City College in San Francisco. "Poetry is the thread of my soul. I write poems to stitch together my sanity and my life." Over the past ten years, Drew has worked at a number of lesbian organizations, such as Luna Sea Women's Performance Project, Bay Area Career Women, Liquid Fire Project and the Queer Women of Color Media Arts Project. The community work that held the most meaning for her was her work for San Francisco Women Against Rape, as a volunteer counselor, medical advocate, Multilingual Advocate and trainer.



Doreen Watson, the recipient of the **Mellonee Rheams and Debra Mambo Award**, is a doctoral student in Sociology and Master's student in Women's Studies at Texas Woman's University in Denton, Texas. As a Co-Founder and Co-President of an organization named Bridges: Making Connections, Watson strives to bring equality for all people across categories of race, gender, and sexuality. As a mentor for African American lesbians on her college campus, she has focused her energies toward helping to empowerment those young women who are facing the challenges of being black and lesbian in a white and heterosexually dominant society.

THE PROGRAM

Saturday, September 18, 2004

First Existentialist Congregation

8:00 PM

Host: Frances Wood

Greetings

Libation

Musical Selection

Welcome - City Councilman H. Lamar Willis

Introduction of Scholarship Recipients

Spoken Word Performance

Recognition of Allies: Atlanta Lesbian Cancer Initiative, AIDS Survival Project -

Mary Anne Adams

Presentation of Named Awards

Featured Artists

ADODI Muse • Lillie Huddleston

Bettina Judd • LaTonya Peoples

Louisa McCullough • Lilli Lewis

Major Sponsors:

Delta Airlines

Holiday Inn Select Decatur

In The Life Atlanta

Atlanta Councilman H. Lamar Willis

Fund for Southern Communities

Lazer Age

First Existentialist Congregation

Visit www.zami.org

*for more information on our scholars,
donors, and upcoming events.*

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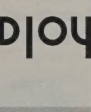
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The Tony Daniels Community Ally Award: Anthony C. Daniels (1965 - 1998), was one of Atlanta's most powerful organizers and activists. Daniels was a founder of In The Life Atlanta, Inc., of ADODI Muse, Inc., and of the Black Lesbian & Gay Poets Society.

The Cherie Caldwell Award: Caldwell is an expert in the supervision and management of employee relations, training and development, with more than 15 years of human resource management experience. Caldwell is currently employed as the Director of Human Resources for a flight attendant group of 19,000 employees.

The Sheryl Burke Award: Burke is a Personal Injury Attorney who operates her own law practices based in Georgia and California. Burke, a native of Los Angeles, is a graduate of St. Louis University Law School and is a member of the National and Georgia Trial Lawyers' Association.

To encourage excellence is to go beyond the encouraged mediocrity of our society. Audre Lorde



Audre Lorde

ZAMI, Inc.

The Audre Lorde Scholarship Fund

Promoting Black Lesbian/
Gay Scholarship

Lifting As We Climb

September 18, 2004

ZAMI: A Carriacou word for women who work together as friends and lovers...

The 2004 Audre Lorde Scholars



Olayinka (Yinka) Majekodunmi is the recipient of the **Margaret Ntombi Howell Power & Presence Memorial Award**. Born in Nigeria and raised in the city of Lagos, Yinka says she is "a student of life and a lover of females." Majoring in Public Health Education and Nutrition at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, VA – she has dedicated her life to slowing the incidences of same sex domestic violence.



Cristel Serena Miller, the recipient of the **Mabel Hampton Honorary Academic & Human Rights Leadership Award**, is a senior at Rice University in Houston, Texas. She was recently honored as one of Glamour Magazine's Top 10 College Women for 2004. Miller, a Rice University Mellon Mays Fellow, participates in the Rice University Undergraduate Scholars Program, received the Rice University Morty Rich Community Service Award.



Lukwanna Littlejohn, the recipient of the **Keiron Williams Hero Award** is an English Major studying at Consummes River College in Sacramento. Lukwanna completed her first novel, *Dear Reader*, last year. She is actively involved in the Lambda Letters Project, a political letter writing organization – and works to fund her education as a Veterinary Technician.

Lichelle (Shelley) Barry and **Preston Shumaker** are recipients of the **Ruth Ellis Award**.



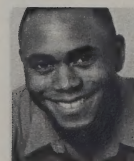
Lichelle (Shelley) Barry, is pursuing a major in Film and Media Arts at Temple University. As a filmmaker, Barry's work is strongly focused on the visibility of lesbians of color on screen. Her films have been screened at film festivals in New York and San Francisco. She is currently developing a full length documentary on so-called "coloured" identity. Barry is a longtime lesbian writer, performance artist, activist, poet and playwright from South Africa.



Preston Shumaker plays an active role in several HIV prevention and treatment programs serving lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender folks of color in Metropolitan Chicago. A Clinical Psychology major at Argosy University in Illinois, his dream is to create a grass roots advocacy agency to work with disenfranchised LGBT and HIV impacted people.



Shelton Jackson, the recipient of the **Tony Daniels Ally Award**, is a man who has a dream: to finish college against all odds. Jackson has fought to complete his studies despite living on his own since age fifteen, experiencing drug addiction in his immediate family, and nursing his lover for four years until his death from AIDS related complications. Jackson completed his Associates degree last summer and is currently studying accounting at Morgan State University in Baltimore, Maryland.



Kazem Abdullah, the recipient of the **Ronald Moore Humanitarian Award**, is a trailblazer. During his sophomore year at the University of Cincinnati, he founded UMOJA, an a cappella choir of 8 black lesbian and gay students whose focus was gay themed gospel, jazz and original poetry. The choir soon grew to 25. Abdullah excels at classical music and has won numerous awards as a clarinetist and conductor. He is currently in graduate school at the Peabody Conservatory of John Hopkins University.

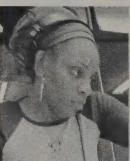
Stephanie M. Forbes, **Lynnee Bonner**, and **Erica Woodland** are the recipients of the **Sheryl Burke Award**.



Stephanie M. Forbes, a student of Creative Writing at Oberlin College in Oberlin, Ohio, has been recognized by the National Honors Society and Who's Who Among American High School Students. Her goal is to promote visibility by having real conversations with students around issues of sexuality.



Erica Woodland, is a graduate student at the University of Maryland in Baltimore, MD. pursuing a degree in Social Work. Woodland is committed to working with people in society whom she says have "disappeared from our communities", specifically women and men affected by incarceration and addiction. She currently works with a group of women at the Baltimore City Detention center as a volunteer.



Lynnee Bonner is a cultural worker. As founder and resident DJ (SoMuchSoul) of Wildseed, she created one of the most popular events in the Bay Area in the late 90's-a place where black lesbians came together weekly to hear musical themes that excluded misogyny and expanded traditional definitions of blackness. Currently working on her masters in Ethnic Studies and Community Development at San Francisco State, Bonner's vision is to create an organization that will help young women create informed and constructive responses to gender and racial based social injustices and poverty."

Jonathan Ann Jones and **Eldridge Holloway**, recipients of the **Cherie Caldwell Award**



Jonathan Ann Jones, has been on the battlefield for many years fighting the spread of HIV/AIDS and substance abuse in her community. Jones has received educational and organizational training on issues such as HIV/ AIDS and Chemical Dependency. Jones entered the University of Arkansas in 2002 to work toward her goal of becoming a Registered Nurse.



Eldridge Holloway, is in the first year of a graduate program at Kennesaw University in Georgia studying Conflict Management. "I am 44 years old and I served seventeen of those years in the US Air Force as a Security Police Officer and Gulf War Veteran. I can assure you that 'Don't Ask Don't Tell' does not work and never did," declares Holloway. He is active with the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Alliance and holds elective office in a number of other student organizations..



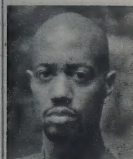
Charles G. Tyson, the recipient of the **Kelley D. Alexander Award**, is a 20 year old rising junior at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, VA where he is working on a degree in Public Administration and Communication Studies. Tyson grew up in the confines of public housing and was reared in a single parent household. He excelled in high school, graduated with honors and served as senior class VP, editor-in-chief of the school newspaper and yearbook, homecoming king and founder of the literary club.



Xanthia Johnson, the recipient of the **The Sherry Turner Award** is a graduate student concentrating in Community Counseling at Trinity College in Washington, D.C. Johnson has served as a volunteer legal advocate for Somali women and also in the field of domestic violence. She plans to become a Pediatric Play Therapist and currently volunteers and interns at the Sexual Minority Youth Assistance League.



Lauren McCray, the recipient of the **Hannah Guishard Award**, entered American University in Washington, DC this fall as a freshman psychology major. During her time at Howard High School of Technology in Wilmington, DE, McCray founded the Gay-Straight Alliance. She also participated as a member of "You're Not Alone" youth group, served as a panelist on the Jimmy Wheeler International Youth panel and was a delegate to the National Conference for Community and Justice.



Craig Washington, the recipient of the **Bayard Rustin Activist Award**, attends Georgia State University earning a degree in Social Work while continuing to work full-time as a volunteer and training coordinator. Washington has worked with AID Atlanta, Southerners On New Ground, The Gay & Lesbian Center and Positive Impact because he believes that direct service is honorable work and can help change lives.



Ava Rodgers, the recipient of the **Antonio Jones Award**, is pursuing a degree in computer information systems at Henry Ford Community College in Dearborn, MI. According to friends, Rodgers is known for her extraordinary musical and theatrical talents and her willingness to perform at fundraisers for non-profit lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender organizations. Rodgers also volunteers technical skills in service to the LGBT community and mentors youth at the Ruth Ellis Center.



Michael "Shomari" Robinette, the recipient of the **Kecia Cunningham Award**, is a graduate student in Women's Studies at Georgia State University in Atlanta. Robinette co-founded Black Out, which galvanized Black lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning students on Georgia State University campus, worked with AID Atlanta on the Young African-American Gay Outreach Project and performed with the Atlanta African dance and theatre community.



Brandi-el Cook, the recipient of the **Edith Biggers-Kathi Martin Award**, entered the University of Memphis this fall as a freshman. Cook was the only out African-American lesbian in her high school and spent countless hours counseling and motivating closeted teens. Noteworthy is that Cook established a lesbian/gay resource section in her high school's library in a weeks time by collecting over 150 books, magazines, articles and videos, built a bookcase, and received a letter of approval from the assistant and head principals.



Francisco Women Against Rape, as a volunteer counselor, medical advocate, MultiLingual Advocate and trainer.

Kebo Drew, the recipient of the **Pat Parker Award**, is studying creative writing at City College in San Francisco. "Poetry is the thread of my soul. I write poems to stitch together my sanity and my life." Over the past ten years, Drew has worked at a number of lesbian organizations, such as Luna Sea Women's Performance Project, Bay Area Career Women, Liquid Fire Project and the Queer Women of Color Media Arts Project. The community work that held the most meaning for her was her work for San



helping to empowerment those young women who are facing the challenges of being black and lesbian in a white and heterosexually dominant society.

Doreen Watson, the recipient of the **Mellonce Rheams and Debra Mlambo Award**, is a doctoral student in Sociology and Master's student in Women's Studies at Texas Woman's University in Denton, Texas. As a Co-Founder and Co-President of an organization named Bridges: Making Connections, Watson strives to bring equality for all people across categories of race, gender, and sexuality. As a mentor for African American lesbians on her college campus, she has focused her energies toward

THE PROGRAM

Saturday, September 18, 2004

First Existentialist Congregation

8:00 PM

Host: Frances Wood

Greetings

Libation

Musical Selection

Welcome - City Councilman H. Lamar Willis

Introduction of Scholarship Recipients

Spoken Word Performance

Recognition of Allies: Atlanta Lesbian Cancer Initiative, AIDS Survival Project -

Mary Anne Adams

Presentation of Named Awards

Featured Artists

ADODI Muse • Lillie Huddleston

Bettina Judd • LaTonya Peoples

Louisa McCullough • Lilli Lewis

Major Sponsors:

Delta Airlines

Holiday Inn Select Decatur

In The Life Atlanta

Atlanta Councilman H. Lamar Willis

Fund for Southern Communities

TH Design

First Existentialist Congregation

Visit www.zami.org

*for more information on our scholars,
donors, and upcoming events.*

Florida nonprofit that provided counsel and assistance to teen mothers. Donor Representatives are **Wendy and Lec Hampton**. Lec is currently the executive director of a New Orleans non profit. This recent career change follows vice presidencies at two North Carolina Universities. Wendy recently managed a

The Mabel Hampton Honorary Academic & Human Rights Leadership Award: Mabel Hampton (1902 - 1989) was an inspiration to younger gays and lesbians. She was an entertainer and activist. Hampton became one of the catalysts for the Lesbian History Archives in New York City when she donated her extensive collection of 1950s paperbacks.

The Bayard Rustin Activist Award: Bayard Rustin (1912 - 1987) For more than 50 years, Bayard Rustin was a strategist and activist in the struggle for human rights and economic justice. As a gay man, relatively open for his time, Rustin experienced anti-gay prejudice in addition to racial discrimination. He was the Deputy Director and chief organizer of the 1963 March on Washington for

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This award is funded by ally, **Allen Thornell**, deputy regional political director with the Service Employees International Union, one of the largest and politically active unions in the country.

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The ZAMI Mission Statement

ZAMI's primary mission is to empower and affirm the lives of lesbians of African descent through providing scholarship funds, leadership development, support/discussion groups, social activities, outreach and education.

The Audre Lorde Scholarship Fund

The scholarship fund is the brainchild of ZAMI's current Executive Director, Mary Anne Adams. The first two scholarships were awarded in 1997 to Wendi O'Neal from Spelman College and Akeya Works from Georgia State University.

Since that time, we have awarded a total of 70, \$1000 scholarships to "out" black lesbians and gay men nation-wide who are making significant contributions to their communities.

ZAMI Board Members

Mary Anne Adams <i>Executive Director</i>	Beryl Jackson, <i>Chair</i>
Edith Biggers	Charone Pagett
Nakia Brown	Tonia Poteat
Lynn Duhart	Miya Binta
Jill Ford	Frances E. Wood
Lyric Harmon	

Special Thanks

Leslie Bladen	Janiece Thompson
Paula Umsted	Wendy Darling
The Drag Kings	Lambda Legal
First Existentialist Congregation	Atlanta Pride
Lisa Campbell	YouthPride
Dale Butler	Connie Cross
	Melissa Gordon

*Much love and appreciation
to all our featured artists.*

www.zami.org: Visit zami.org for more information on our scholars, donors, and upcoming events.